PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: : 10/755,835 Confirmation No. 9841

Applicant: : Birk, et. al.

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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/Leslie A. Van Leeuwen, Reg No. 42,196/

May 23, 2007 Date

Leslie A. Van Leeuwen, Reg No. 42,196

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of March 7, 2007, with a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 7, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections and reexamination of the present application in light of the following remarks and amendments:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12.

No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is required, the extension is requested, and the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees for this extension to Van Leeuwen & Van Leeuwen, Deposit Account No. 50-3754.